

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 029383

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 898 ACTION SECSTATE 06 FEB 76

QUOTE

S E C R E T SEOUL 0898

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS: AMEMBASSY TOKYO, THE HAGUE, WELLINGTON,
LONDON, OTTAWA, SAN JOSE, USUN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, KS, KN

SUBJECT: FONMIN REQUESTS EARLY UN CONSULTATIONS

1. AT FEBRUARY 5 MEETING FONMIN PARK TONG-CHIN ASKED
AMBASSADOR IF HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO DISCUSS
OUR FUTURE COURSE REGARDING KOREAN RESOLUTION IN NEXT
YEARS' UNGA AND THE AMBASSADOR INDICATED THAT HE HOPED
TO HAVE THEM SOON. PARK SUGGESTED BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS
BE HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM TEHRAN ON

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FEBRUARY 18, (SEOUL 838), AND SUGGESTED THAT IN MEANTIME

WE SHOULD BOTH NOTIFY CORE GROUP MEMBERS THAT CORE GROUP MEETING WOULD HAVE TO BE DELAYED SOMEWHAT UNTIL ROK/US DISCUSSIONS COULD TAKE PLACE. AMBASSADOR SAID HE EXPECTED TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS BY 18TH AND TENTATIVELY AGREED TO INTERMIM NOTIFICATION OF CORE GROUP, SUBJECT TO STATE DEPT CONFIRMATION.

2. PARK SAID ROKG THINKING ON UN WAS TENTATIVE AT THIS STAGE. IT WOULD BE MOST IMPORTANT TO HAVE A CORRECT ASSESSMENT REGARDING VOTING PROSPECTS BEFORE LOOKING AT TACTICS. MOFA HAD DONE SOME WORK ON THIS AND ITS PRELIMINARY CONCLUSION WAS THAT THE OUTLOOK IS GLOOMY. THERE WAS NO HOPE TO BLOCK THE NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION BUT MORE IMPORTANT THERE WAS ALSO SERIOUS DOUBT IN MOFA VIEW ABOUT PASSAGE OF THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. FONMIN SAID THAT PRESIDENT PARK HAD TOLD HIM IN BRIEFING CONDUCTED AT BLUE HOUSE FEBRUARY 4, WHICH KCIA DIRECTOR SHIN AND PRIME MINISTER ALSO ATTENDED, THAT IF THERE WAS SLIGHTEST DANGER WESTERN RESOLUTION WOULD NOT BE ADOPTED ROKG SHOULD NOT SUBMIT ANY RESOLUTION AT ALL TO UNGA THIS YEAR. FAILURE WOULD CAUSE GREAT DIFFICULTIES BOTH IN KOREA AND ABROAD. FONMIN EMPHASIZED THAT PRESIDENT HAD BEEN VERY STRONG ON THIS POINT, THERE WAS LITTLE ROOM TO CHANGE HIS MIND, AND FONMIN WAS OBLIGED TO IMPLEMENT PRESIDENT'S DECISIONS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO ABOVE AMBASSADOR SAID HE DID NOT HAVE FINAL ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS, BUT THAT PRELIMINARY USUN ASSESSMENT HAD NOT BEEN QUITE SO GLOOMY AS KOREAN OUTLOOK APPEARED TO BE. WHEN ASKED ABOUT CORE GROUP VIEWS AMBASSADOR CONFINED HIS COMMENTS TO MORE POSITIVE APPROACH JAPANESE NOW APPEARED TO BE TAKING TOWARD KOREA GENERALLY AND TO SUPPORT FOR THE WESTERN POSITION ON THE KOREAN UNGA RESOLUTION SPECIFICALLY. PARK COMMENTED THAT JAPANESE DEVELOPMENT WAS ENCOURAGING.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE LUNCHEON CONVERSATION FEBRUARY 6 FONMIN ADDED TWO FURTHER POINTS REGARDING PRESIDENT'S VIEWS ON UN ISSUE: (1) NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WHICH WILL IN ANY WAY JEOPARDIZE ARMISTICE; AND SPECIFICALLY (2) UN
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COMMAND SHOULD NOT BE UNILATERALLY ABANDONED.

5. COMMENT: ABOVE CONVERSATION REFLECTS IMPRESSION WE HAVE FROM PRESS AND OTHER CONVERSATIONS THAT ROKG OUTLOOK ON NEXT YEARS'S UN CONFRONTATION IS INCREASINGLY GLOOMY, AND THAT MORE AND MORE KOREANS FEEL COMPELLED TO SEEK SOME WAY OUT OF UN FIGHT. THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY REALISTIC, AND TO HEAD OFF FURTHER HARDENING OF THIS VIEW, I BELIEVE IT IS

MOST IMPORTANT THAT REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH KOREA BE FORWARDED IN AMPLE TIME FOR US TO COMMENCE CONVERSATIONS WITH FONMIN PARK IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS REMRN FROM TEHRAN FEBRUARY 18.

6. ACTION RECOMMENDED: RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT CORE GROUP POSTS TO NOTIFY HOST GOVERNMENTS OF DELAY ON UN CONSULTATIONS. FYI WE ARE BEGINNING TO FEEL PRESSURE LOCALLY FROM CORE GROUP COUNTY AMBASSADORS.
SNEIDER
UNQUOTE
KISSINGER

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